



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

---

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**JUNE 28, 2004**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CARTHAGE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Carthage, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to illegally possessing several firearms.

**David M. Garner**, 44, of Carthage, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning.

By pleading guilty, **Garner** admitted that he was in possession of one revolver, two pistols, two rifles and a shotgun, with ammunition, on Feb. 6, 2004, in Jasper County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. Garner has a 1986 criminal felony conviction for stealing in Lawrence County, Mo.

**Garner** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 1, 2004, in Springfield.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Garner** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a \$250,000 fine. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. It was investigated by the Carthage, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\*\*\*\*\*

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)